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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-1

New Cotton Legislation
News - State Office Release

(Suggested for release to dailies by State Committee as soon as notified that regulations have been approved by the Secretary.)

(State) cotton growers were asked today by the State Production and Marketing Administration committee to review their planting intentions for 1950 and to consider the release for reapportionment of any part of their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments that will not be planted to cotton this year.

Mr. _____, committee chairman, explains that under the new law recently passed by the Congress, the unused portion of an allotment may be released either for 1950 only, or on a permanent basis at the option of the grower.

"Where the unused allotment is released for 1950 only," says Mr. _____, "the action will have no effect on the size of allotments that may be established for the farm in future years, except to the extent that the acreage actually planted to cotton on the farm in 1950 may affect the farm's highest planted acreage for the 3-year base period.

He points out that this acreage must first be used to offset farm allotment increases to the minimums provided in the new law. The acreage released and used to offset these increases will be credited to the State and County in determining future allotments. Any part of the returned acreage which is unused after these adjustments have been made can then be used by the county committee to make further adjustments that appear justified in farm allotments already established.

Under the new legislation, the county PMA committee -- upon written request by the farm operator or owner -- is authorized to make an adjustment in each farm cotton acreage allotment for 1950 where the present allotment on the farm is less than the minimum established by the law, says Mr. _____.

This minimum allotment, the chairman explains, is the larger of 65 percent of the average acreage regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in 1946, 1947, and 1948, or 45 percent of the highest acreage regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in any one of these three years. But the minimum allotment cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage that was tilled or in regular rotation on the farm in 1949. Credit for planting "war crops" on the farm in 1946 and 1947 is taken into consideration in determining the acreage regarded as planted to cotton.

The chairman emphasizes that all applications for an increase to the minimum allotment must be filed with the county PMA committee no later than (deadline date). He also points out that county PMA committees will be unable to accept releases of unused allotments after this date. In both cases, official forms for this purpose are now available in the office of the county PMA committee in every cotton growing county.

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April 7, 1950

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-2

New Cotton Legislation
News - State Office Release

Every (State) farmer for which a 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment has been established will have until April 15, 1950 to request a review of his allotment under terms of new legislation recently passed by the Congress, even though no appeal was filed after he received the notice of his original allotment last fall.

Under the new procedure, applications for the review -- supported by factual evidence in writing -- are filed with the county Production and Marketing Administration committee for the county in which the applicant's farm is located. The reviews will be conducted by special review committees of farmers who are not members of the county PMA committee which set the original allotment.

The State PMA committee, which makes this announcement, explains that in addition, those cotton growers who apply for adjustment of their farm allotments to the minimum provided by the new law will have a period of 15 days after the notice of revised allotment is mailed to them by their county PMA committee in which to file an appeal, even though this date may be later than April 15.

The minimum farm allotments for 1950 provided in the new legislation are based on planting history in the years, 1946, 1947, and 1948. But past planting history on the farm was not a dominant factor in setting many of the original farm cotton acreage allotments for 1950, determined according to Public Law 272, the committee explains.

"For that reason, many farmers who were not satisfied with the planting history established for their farms by their county PMA committee failed to take advantage of the regular appeal procedure at the time they received their original allotment notices," says Mr. _____, committee chairman. "In many cases, the cotton planting history had no effect on the size of the farm allotment."

Under the new legislation, any cotton grower -- upon written application to his county PMA committee -- is entitled to a minimum farm cotton acreage allotment for 1950 equal to the larger, of 65 percent of the average acreage regarded as planted to cotton on his farm in the years 1946, 1947, and 1948, or 45 percent of the highest acreage regarded as planted to cotton on his farm in any one of these three years. However, this minimum farm allotment cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage that was tilled on the farm in 1949, or is in regular rotation. Credit for planting "war crops" on the farm in 1946 and 1947 is taken into consideration in determining the acreage regarded as planted to cotton.

"This new provision will not reduce any allotments already established," says Mr. _____. "It merely guarantees at least the minimum farm allotment to those whose present allotments are less than the minimum."

(more)

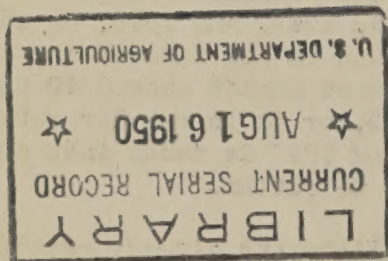
The chairman cautions growers that this minimum guarantee is not automatic -- that they must make written application to their county PMA committee before (deadline date) to take advantage of the adjustment.

Another provision of the new law allows farmers who will not use all of their present farm cotton acreage allotment for planting cotton in 1950 to release the unused portion for redistribution to other cotton farms in the county. Growers have the option of releasing this unused allotment for 1950 only, or on a permanent basis. If the allotment is released for 1950 only, Mr. _____ points out that the action will have no effect on the size of allotments that may be established for the farm in future years, except to the extent that the acreage actually planted to cotton on the farm in 1950 may affect the farm's highest planted acreage for the 3-year base period.

Appeals for adjustment in production history, applications for allotment increases to the new minimum, and releases of unused allotment are all handled by the county PMA committee.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-3

New Cotton Legislation
News — County Office Release

Every farmer in _____ County for which a 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment has been established will have until April 15, 1950 to request a review of his allotment, Mr. _____, county Production and Marketing Administration committee chairman said today (this week).

Applications for the review are filed at the county PMA office in (location), and must be supported by factual evidence in writing, the chairman explains. The review will be made by a special review committee of farmers who are not members of the county PMA committee that established the original allotment.

Mr. _____ also points out that those growers who apply for adjustment of their 1950 cotton allotments to the minimum provided by new legislation passed recently by the Congress, will have the usual 15-day period after the notice of revised allotment is mailed to them from the county PMA office in which to file an appeal.

He explains that the authority of both the county PMA committee and the special review committee to make adjustments in farm allotments is limited to cases where it can be proved that the allotment was not established according to applicable regulations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture under the law.

"In other words," Mr. _____ says, "the fact that a farmer wants a larger allotment than the law or regulations provides is not a sufficient basis for sending a case to the review committee."

The authority to grant reviews of 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments, even though appeals were not filed within the statutory 15-day period after the original allotment notices were mailed to growers last fall, is contained in the new law, says the chairman.

He explains that the minimum farm allotments for 1950 provided in the new legislation are based on cotton planting history in the years, 1946, 1947, and 1948. But past planting history on the farm was only a limiting factor in setting many of the original allotments for 1950, determined according to Public Law 272, passed by the Congress last fall.

"Because of this, we know that some of the farmers, who were not satisfied with the production history established for their farms by the county PMA committee failed to file appeals when they received their original allotment notices last fall," says Mr. _____.

Mr. _____ is also calling cotton growers' attention to the fact that (deadline date) is the last day on which applications for adjustment of farm allotments to the new statutory minimum can be accepted in the county PMA office. The applications must be in writing, and special forms, available at the office, are provided for the purpose.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-4

New Cotton Legislation
News - County Office Release

County cotton farmers were advised today (this week) that they may now release any portion of their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments that will not be planted to cotton this year. This procedure is provided by new Federal legislation passed by the Congress last month.

In making the announcement, Mr. _____, county Production and Marketing Administration committee chairman, assures growers that if the release is authorized for 1950 only, it will have no effect on the size of an allotment that may be established for a farm in future years, except to the extent that the acreage actually planted to cotton on the farm in 1950 affects the farm's highest planted acreage for the 3-year base period.

The chairman points out that the acreage accumulated from these releases will first be used to offset increases in 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments required by the minimum farm allotment provisions of the new legislation. The acreage released and used to offset these increases, he explains, will be credited to the State and county in determining future allotments.

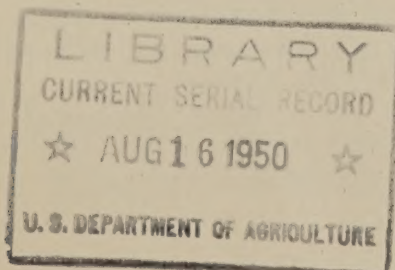
"If any of the released acreage remains after meeting minimum allotment requirements," says the chairman, "it may be used by the county PMA committee to make further adjustments that appear justified in farm allotments already established."

He points out that an official form is provided for a grower to authorize release of all or any part of his allotment, and asks that growers come into the county office in (location) for this purpose.

Under the new legislation, cotton farmers who make a written application prior to (deadline date) are entitled to a minimum farm cotton acreage allotment for 1950 of the larger of 65 percent of the average acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in 1946, 1947, and 1948, or 45 percent of the highest acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in any one of these three years. But this minimum allotment cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage on the farm tilled in 1949, or in regular rotation. Credit for planting "war crops" on the farm is taken into consideration as provided by law in determining the acreage regarded as planted to cotton.

Application forms for requesting this allotment adjustment can be obtained at the county PMA office.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-5

New Cotton Legislation
News -- County Office Release

(May also be revised for
State office Release)

The county Production and Marketing Administration committee reminds
County cotton farmers today (this week) that they have only until
Saturday, April 15, 1950 to file written requests for review of their 1950
farm cotton acreage allotments.

Mr. _____, committee chairman, explains that under a new law
passed by Congress last month, all farmers for whom 1950 farm cotton acreage
allotments were established may request a review of their allotments during
a 15-day period following enactment of the measure into law. The Act was
signed by the President on March 31, thus setting the April 15 deadline date.

Applications for the review are filed at the county PMA office in
(location). Mr. _____ points out that they must be supported by such
factual evidence in writing as the applicant believes will show that the
allotment was improperly determined according to the applicable regulations of
the U. S. Department of Agriculture under the law.

"The fact that a farmer merely wants a larger allotment than the law
or regulations allows to be set for his farm can not be considered an ade-
quate basis for filing an appeal," says the chairman.

The appeals will be considered by a special review committee of farmers
who are not members of the county PMA committee that established the original
allotment. Each grower will be notified of the action taken by the review
committee as soon as possible after he files his appeal, Mr. _____ states.

He points out that the authority of the review committee includes,
but is not limited to, a determination of the correctness of the production
history set for the farm by the county PMA committee. When the original farm
allotments were set last fall, production history on the farm was only a
limiting factor on the maximum size of the allotment, and many allotments in
_____ County were not affected.

"But the minimum farm allotments established by the new law are based
primarily on production history, and it therefore assumes greater importance
to many cotton farmers," says the chairman.

Written applications for adjustment of 1950 farm cotton acreage allot-
ments to the new minimums are also being accepted at the county PMA office.
Mr. _____ points out, however, that the applications cannot be accepted
after (deadline date). No adjustments can be made unless a written appli-
cation is filed by either the farm operator or the farm owner by this date.
Special application forms are available from the county PMA office.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

New Cotton Legislation
News — State Office Release

(Suggested release to dailies and press associations three or four days prior to deadline for filing MQ-28's.)

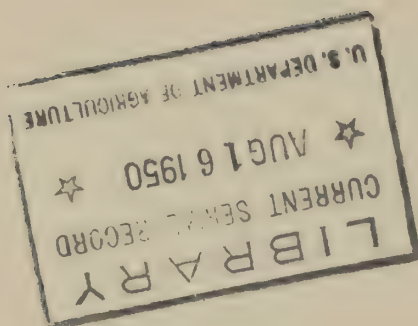
The Production and Marketing Administration warned (State) cotton farmers today that only (number) days remain in which to apply for increases in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments in line with the minimums provided in new legislation passed by the Congress last month.

The agency also advised farmers who will not be planting cotton on all of their allotted acreage in 1950 that they have only until (deadline date) to release the unused portion, if they wish to do so.

Mr. _____, (address), farmer and chairman (or member) of the State PMA committee explains that the new law allows every cotton grower — upon written application to his county PMA committee — a minimum 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment of the larger of (1) 65 percent of the average acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on his farm in 1946, 1947, and 1948, or (2) 45 percent of the highest acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on his farm in any one of these years, except that the minimum allotment cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage tilled on the farm in 1949, or in regular rotation. Credit for "war crops" planted on the farm is considered as provided by law in determining the acreage regarded as planted to cotton.

He estimates that around _____ percent of the State's cotton farms are affected by the minimum allotment provisions of the new legislation, but reports that information from county PMA offices in the State's (number) cotton growing counties indicate that a large number of these growers have not as yet filed applications for the permitted increase.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

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New Cotton Legislation
News - County Office Release

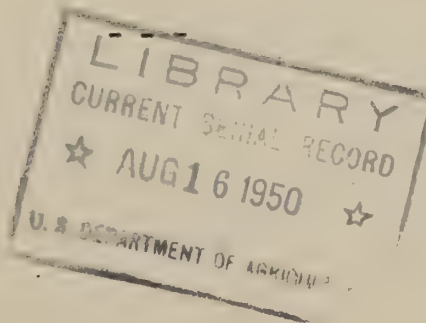
(Suggested for use three or four days prior to deadline for filing MQ-28'.)

_____ County cotton farmers are again reminded by their county Production and Marketing Administration committee that only _____ days remain in which to file written applications for adjustments in their farm cotton acreage allotments in line with the minimums established by new legislation passed by the Congress last month.

The county PMA committee estimates that about _____ percent (or number) of the County's 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments are affected by the minimum provisions of the new law.

"But up to yesterday, applications had been received in the county office from only about (half, two-thirds, 90 percent, or whatever it is) of this number," Mr. _____, committee chairman stated.

Mr. _____ also reminds farmers who will not be planting all of their allotments to cotton this year that they may release the unused portion but that the release must be authorized in writing no later than (deadline). This is also the last date on which applications can be accepted for allotment increases under the new minimum provisions of the law. The application forms are available at the county office.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-8

New Cotton Legislation
News - County Office Release

The _____ County Production and Marketing Administration office said today (this week) that approximately (one-half, or whatever it is) of the applications filed by cotton growers for increases in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments under the minimum provisions of the new cotton legislation have been processed. Notices of the revised allotments covered by the processed applications are on their way to growers.

At the same time, PMA calls these growers' attention to the fact that any appeal that they may wish to file in connection with the revised allotment must be in the hands of the county PMA committee no later than 15 days after the date the revised allotment notice was mailed from the county PMA office.

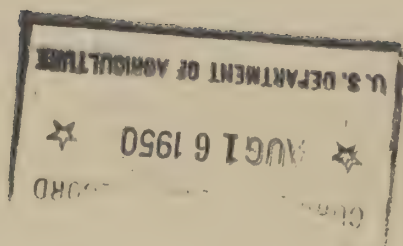
Mr. _____, committee chairman, points out that the revised allotments are based on planting history established by the county PMA committee at the time the original allotments were set. Under the formula provided by Public Law 272, which was used to set the original allotments, planting history was only a limit on the maximum size of many allotments.

"For this reason, we know that a number of producers failed to request a review of their production history even though they may have felt that it was not correct," the chairman states. "They are now given an opportunity to seek corrections if they wish to do so."

The chairman explains that appeals will be handled by a special review committee of farmers who are not members of the county PMA committee that set the original allotments. All appeals must be supported by factual information in writing to indicate why the grower believes his allotment has been improperly set.

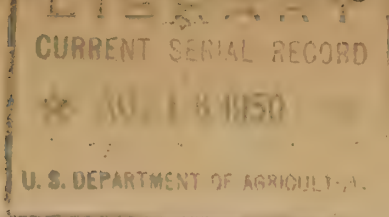
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCI-9



New Cotton Legislation
Radio — County and State
Office Release

(These are a group of short radio news announcements varying in length from about 30 seconds to about 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ minutes. Although written for county office use, they can be used at the State level with very minor revision. Timing is important, and we suggest, therefore, that each cotton county office be encouraged to review the whole group as soon as received, and decide on the presentation dates through the period involved when they can be used to best advantage. Arrangements should then be made with their local radio stations accordingly.)

No. 1

Many _____ County cotton growers are entitled to increases in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments under terms of legislation recently passed by the Congress.

But the law requires that a written application for the increase be filed with the county Production and Marketing Administration committee. Mr. _____, committee chairman, says that applications will be accepted at the county office in (location) through (deadline date). That's (number) weeks (days) from now. But Mr. _____ urges growers to get their applications in right away. The way he puts it, "The sooner the application is filed with the county PMA committee, the quicker the grower can be notified of the allowable adjustment, if any, in his farm acreage allotment."

In brief, the new legislation provides a formula for determining a minimum 1950 allotment for each farm. If the minimum allotment, as calculated under the new formula, is larger than the 1950 allotment already established for the farm, the farm acreage allotment may be increased to the minimum.

This minimum allotment is the larger of 65 percent of the average acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in 1946, 1947, and 1948, or 45 percent of the highest acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton on the farm in any one of these three years. But the minimum allotment cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage that was tilled on the farm in 1949; or in regular rotation. War-crop credits are taken into consideration as provided by law in determining the acreage regarded as planted to cotton.

Forms to be used in applying for the allotment adjustment can be obtained from the county PMA office in (location).

No. 2

_____ County cotton growers are reminded by the county Production and Marketing Administration committee that they have only until (deadline date) to file applications for adjustment of their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments under terms of legislation recently passed by the Congress.

(more)

The county PMA committee estimates that there are about (number) cotton growers in County who are entitled to increases in their 1950 farm allotments, but up to (yesterday) only about (number) applications had been received in the county PMA office.

The new law sets up a formula for determining minimum farm allotments. If the minimum, determined by the formula, is larger than the allotment already established, the county PMA committee may increase the farm allotment to the minimum if the grower has filed an application for the adjustment.

Application forms may be obtained from the county PMA office in (location).

No. 3

(For use two or three days prior to deadline for filing MQ-28's)

Only (number) days remain for County cotton growers to file applications for adjustments in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments, as provided by new legislation passed by Congress last month.

But the county Production and Marketing Administration committee says that only about (one-half, three-fourths, 40 percent, or whatever it is) of the (number) (name) County growers entitled to the adjustments had actually filed the required written applications up to (yesterday).

Mr. , county PMA committee chairman, points out that the new legislation does not increase any allotments. He emphasizes, however, that cotton growers who wish to take advantage of the provisions of the new law must file a written application with the county PMA committee no later than (day) — that no adjustments can be made automatically without application.

The applications are to be filed at the county PMA office in (location).

No. 4

For County cotton growers, today (tomorrow) is a mighty important day! It's the last day in which applications can be filed with the county Production and Marketing Administration committee for adjustments in 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments allowed under new legislation passed by Congress last month.

To get the adjustment if he is entitled to one, a cotton grower must make a written application to the county PMA committee. This is required by the law. The county committee is not allowed to make automatic adjustments in all allotments affected by the legislation.

Likewise, Mr. , committee chairman, points out that only about (one-half, two-thirds, or whatever it is) of County's cotton allotments are affected by the legislation. But every grower — either operator or farm owner — is entitled to file an application.

Applications should be made at the county PMA office in (location).

No. 5

Every _____ County cotton grower is entitled to request a review of his 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment if he files his request with the county Production and Marketing Administration committee before April 15.

This review procedure was provided by new Federal legislation passed last month. Its primary purpose is to allow every reasonable opportunity for the alleviation of inequities that may have developed in the establishment of farm cotton acreage allotments according to the formula in Public Law 272.

The new law also establishes minimum allotments for each farm based largely on planting history in 1946, 1947, and 1948. Applications for these adjustments will be accepted by the county PMA committee through (deadline date). A cotton grower — either farm operator or farm owner — is required by the law to file a written application by this date in order to take advantage of the minimum allotment provision. The forms are available at the county PMA office at (location).

Growers who file applications for the minimum 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment will also be allowed to request a review of their case within a 15-day period after the date the notice of the revised allotment is mailed to them from the county PMA office.

In both cases, the appeals will be handled by a special review committee of farmers who are not members of the _____ County PMA committee. The county committee points out that all appeals must be supported by factual information in writing that states why the grower believes his farm allotment has been improperly set.

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No. 6

The Production and Marketing Administration advised _____ County cotton growers today that under a new provision of Federal legislation they are permitted to release all or any portion of their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment that will not be used for planting cotton this year.

Mr. _____, county PMA committee chairman explains that acreage accumulated under this program must first be used to offset farm allotment increases required by the minimum farm allotment provisions of the new law. Any part of the returned acreage which is unused after these adjustments have been made can then be used by the county committee to make further adjustments that appear justified in farm allotments already established. He also points out that acreage released and used to offset the minimum farm allotment increases will be credited to the State and County in determining future allotments.

It is necessary for the farm operator or farm owner to authorize release of his allotment in writing not later than (deadline date). The chairman says that forms for this purpose are now available in the county PMA office in (location).

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No. 7

_____ County cotton growers who wish to have their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments reviewed for correctness must file a written request with the county Production and Marketing Administration committee no later than Saturday, April 15. That's only _____ days from now.

The county PMA committee says that the appeals will be handled by a special review committee of farmers, and that growers will be advised of the decision of the committee as soon as possible after the appeals are all in.

Each appeal must be accompanied by factual information in writing to show why the grower believes his 1950 cotton allotment has been improperly determined. The committee is limited to a determination of facts. Or, as Mr. _____, county PMA committee chairman, puts it — "The fact that a grower merely wants a larger allotment is not sufficient justification for referring a case to the review committee."

No. 8

The county Production and Marketing Administration committee said today that nearly (half, two-thirds, 90 percent, or whatever it is) of the applications received from cotton growers for adjustment in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments under terms of the new minimum allotment provisions have been processed. Notices of revised allotments covered by the processed applications are on their way to these growers, and no doubt many of them have already been received.

But Mr. _____, county committee chairman, is reminding these growers that if they wish to file a request for reconsideration of the revised allotment, they must do so within a 15-day period after the date the notice was mailed to them from the county PMA office.

He explains that the minimum allotments, provided by the new legislation, are based largely on planting history on the farm in the years 1946, 1947, and 1948. But in setting the original allotments, planting history was only a limiting factor in many cases.

For this reason, he suspects that a number of _____ County cotton farmers did not request a review of the planting history established for their farms last fall, even though they may have felt that it was not correct. Mr. _____ says that this will give these farmers an opportunity to get their production history corrected if the review committee finds that the evidence they submit substantiates their claims.

All appeals must be filed at the county PMA office in (location).

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration

Information NCL-10

New Cotton Legislation
Radio -- State and County
Office Release

(This is a group of radio spot announcements that may be used by any radio station in your cotton producing area. Careful attention should be given to presentation dates to see that they correspond to the deadline dates involved.)

MINIMUM ALLOTMENTS

No. 1

Mr. Cotton Grower! . . . Have you checked with your county PMA committee to see if you're entitled to an adjustment in your 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment? You'd better do so right away. You have only until (date).

No. 2

New Federal legislation establishes a minimum 1950 cotton acreage allotment for every farm. This minimum allotment may be larger than the allotment already set for the farm. But to get the minimum allotment, a cotton grower must file a written application with the county PMA committee before (date). If you own or operate a cotton farm, you'd better check with the county PMA office in (location) right away.

No. 3

Only (number) days remain for County cotton growers to request adjustments in their 1950 cotton farm acreage allotments in line with the minimum allotment provisions of new Federal legislation. If you own or operate a cotton farm, you'd better check with the county PMA office in (location) before (day).

No. 4

Cotton growers! . . . After tomorrow (today) it will be too late! . . . Tomorrow (today) is the last day you can apply to the county PMA committee for an increase in your 1950 cotton farm acreage allotment in line with the minimum allotment provisions of new Federal legislation. To get the increase, you must file a written application in the county PMA office in (location) no later than tomorrow (today).

APPEALS

No. 1

Every cotton grower in _____ County who wishes to do so is entitled to request a review of his 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment. But to get the review, he must present his request in writing at the county PMA office in _____ (location) no later than Saturday, April 15.

No. 2

The county PMA committee is now accepting applications from those cotton farmers who wish a review of their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments. In his request for review, the grower must state why he believes his 1950 allotment has been improperly determined, and must include factual information in writing to support his claim. The requests must be filed in the county PMA office in _____ (location) no later than Saturday, April 15.

No. 3

Do you have a 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment? Do you think it was improperly determined? You can have your allotment reviewed for possible adjustment by a special committee of farmers. But you must file a written request for the review with the county PMA office in _____ (location) no later than Saturday, April 15.

No. 4

Cotton farmers! . . . Tomorrow (today) is the last day for requesting a review of your 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment. If you're not satisfied with your cotton allotment -- believe it was improperly determined -- you can have your case reviewed for possible adjustment by a special review committee of farmers. But you must file your written request for the review with the county PMA office in _____ (location) (today) by tomorrow.

No. 5

The county PMA committee reminds cotton growers who are now receiving notices of revised 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments that any appeal for reconsideration they may wish to make must be filed in the county PMA office in _____ (location) no later than 15 days after the date the notice was mailed to them from the county office.

RELEASE AND REAPPORTIONMENT

No. 1

Mr. Cotton Grower! . . . Will you be planting cotton this year on all of your allotted acreage? Your farm acreage allotment is yours to use if you want to. But if you plan to release any part of your 1950 farm cotton allotment that you will not be planting to cotton this year, your county PMA committee asks that you come into the county office in (location) as soon as possible . . . but no later than (deadline date).

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April 7, 1950

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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COMMUNICATIONS
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I think most of our cotton growers are familiar with the reasons for this new amendment. Public Law 272 provided a rigid formula for determining cotton farm acreage allotments based largely on a farm's cropland acreage. Except for those farms on which the highest acreage planted to cotton in 1946, 1947, or 1948 was 5 acres or less, the production history on the farm did not enter into the calculation of the allotment except as a limiting factor.

SPEAKER: (continued) Reserves were provided by the law to care for inequities among farms that were caused by the application of this formula. But in many States and counties, the reserves were not adequate, and restrictions on the use of the reserves prevented the county PMA committee from establishing what they considered fair and equitable allotments for all farms. At the same time, the committee found that the allotments they were required to set for some other farms were larger than appeared to be justified.

The new law is designed to correct this situation. Under its terms a minimum 1950 allotment can be set for each farm. If the minimum allotment is larger than the allotment that was previously established for the farm, and if the farm owner or farm operator files a written application with the county PMA committee before (deadline date), the committee will increase the farm allotment for 1950 to the minimum.

To determine the minimum allotment for a particular farm, the county PMA committee first takes 65 percent of the average acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton in the three years — 1946, 1947, and 1948. This production history was obtained from farmers last year before the original allotments were set.

Next, we calculate 45 percent of the highest acreage planted or regarded as planted to cotton in any one of the three years — 1946, 1947, and 1948.

Then we take 40 percent of the acreage that was tilled on the farm in 1949, or is in regular rotation.

The minimum allotment for the farm is the larger of the first two figures, except that it cannot exceed 40 percent of the acreage that was tilled on the farm in 1949, or is in regular rotation. Credit for planting "war crops" on the farm in 1946 and 1947 is taken into consideration in determining the acreage "regarded as planted to cotton."

Most farmers, with the aid of this information, will be able to calculate the minimum allotment for their farms, at least roughly. That will tell them if there is any advantage to them in applying for the minimum allotment. Actually, we recommend that every farmer, who isn't absolutely sure that there is no advantage to him in applying for the minimum allotment, come into the county office and let us make an official check for him.

The point to remember is this . . . The law specifically requires that, to take advantage of the minimum allotment provision, a farmer must make a written application to the county PMA committee. The State PMA committee has set (deadline date) as the deadline date for accepting such applications. That isn't very long from now, and it means that you are going to have to act quickly.

SPEAKER: (continued) Official application forms have been provided for the purpose, and they are available at the county PMA office in (location).

(This is a logical division point if the script is to be broken up. If so, you may use the suggested closing, and an introduction similar to the following for the second section. If not, continue after the suggested introduction below.)

SUGGESTED CLOSING FOR FIRST SECTION

SPEAKER: A good slogan might be — "Don't delay . . . do it today!"

Tomorrow (or whenever it is) at this same time we're going to discuss another of the provisions of the new cotton amendment — the one that deals with requests for review and reconsideration of 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments.

ANNOUNCER: You have been listening to a brief discussion of an important provision of new Federal cotton legislation that was passed by the Congress last month. Our speaker today was Mr. _____, county Production and Marketing Administration committee chairman. Mr. _____ will be back at this same time (tomorrow) to continue his explanation of the new law.

SUGGESTED OPENING FOR SECOND SECTION

ANNOUNCER: Now, to continue our discussion of the new Federal legislation that is of such vital importance to _____ County cotton farmers, here is Mr. _____, chairman of the county Production and Marketing Administration committee. Mr. _____ . . .

SPEAKER: (Yesterday), those of you who were listening will recall that I mentioned three important provisions of the new amendment to Federal cotton legislation. We covered the first of these provisions — the one that provides for determining a minimum 1950 cotton acreage allotment for each farm. In that connection, I would like again to remind _____ County cotton growers that to take advantage of this provision, they must file written applications with the county PMA committee no later than (deadline date).

SECOND SECTION TEXT

Now, let's consider the second provision of the new amendment — the one that provides for a review of farm cotton acreage allotments for those growers that believe their allotments have not been set properly according to the law and regulations.

SPEAKER: (continued) As you probably know, there is a regular procedure established for the review of cotton marketing quotas. This, in effect, means a review of farm cotton acreage allotments because the farm marketing quota is based on the farm acreage allotment. Under this procedure, a cotton producer is allowed to request a review and reconsideration of his farm allotment any time within 15 days after the date the notice of the allotment and marketing quota was mailed to him from the county PMA office. A special review committee of three farmers — who are not also members of the county PMA committee that set the original allotments — is established to conduct the reviews.

A good many appeals were filed by _____ County growers last fall after they received notices of their allotments as originally established. These were considered on the basis of the law as written at that time, and applicable regulations of the Department of Agriculture under the law.

But with the important changes that are made by the new amendment, the Congress felt that every grower should have another opportunity for a review of his allotment. It therefore provided that any grower who wishes to do so may file a written request with the county PMA committee for a review of his allotment. But he must get the request into the county PMA office no later than April 15, or within 15 days after the date any notice of revised farm cotton acreage allotment is mailed to him from the county PMA office, whichever is later.

This means that any grower can file a request for review between now and Saturday, April 15. But farmers who are applying for adjustment of their allotments under the new minimum allotment provisions of the amendment will also have until 15 days after the notice of revised allotment is mailed to them from the county PMA office.

The requests must be based on the law and regulations. The fact that a cotton grower merely wants a larger allotment does not constitute a satisfactory basis for filing a request for review.

In the request, the farm operator or farm owner must tell why he is asking for a review — in other words, why he thinks his allotment has not been properly determined. And he must include that factual information in writing that he considers necessary to support his contention.

As we mentioned (yesterday) (earlier), production history was not even a factor in setting many of the 1950 farm cotton acreage allotments here in _____ County. But since the new minimum allotments are based on production history, it is important to cotton growers that our records in this regard be correct.

SPEAKER: (continued) The review committee will have full authority to determine the correctness of farm production history and to make any adjustments they believe are necessary to make our records conform to fact.

But no cases will be submitted to the review committee except on request of the farm operator or owner. Such request must be made prior to April 15 except where an application for the new minimum farm allotment is filed with the county PMA committee. In this case, the appeal can be filed any time within 15 days after the notice of revised allotment is mailed to the grower from the county PMA office.

SUGGESTED CLOSING FOR SECOND SECTION

(Tomorrow) we'll discuss the third important provision of the new Federal cotton legislation — the one that allows the county PMA committee to accept releases of allotted acreage that will not be used in 1950 and to reapportion this acreage to other cotton farms in the county.

ANNOUNCER: This has been the second in a series of three commentaries on the importance of the new Federal cotton legislation passed by the Congress last month. The speaker was Mr. _____, chairman of the _____ County Production and Marketing Administration Committee. Mr. _____ will be back at this same time (tomorrow) for the third commentary in this series.

SUGGESTED OPENING FOR THIRD SECTION

ANNOUNCER: Now here is Mr. _____, chairman of the _____ County Production and Marketing Administration committee to bring us the last in a series of three commentaries on the new Federal cotton legislation passed by the Congress last month. Mr. _____ . . .

SPEAKER: Today's discussion will complete our explanation of the importance of the new Federal cotton legislation to cotton growers in _____ County. We hope that this information will answer most of your questions. But please don't hesitate to call on us in the county PMA office, or to check with your community PMA committeeman if anything is bothering you.

THIRD SECTION TEXT

The third important provision of the new cotton amendment authorizes the county PMA committee to accept releases of cotton allotments and parts of allotments that will not be used in 1950.

SPEAKER: (continued) Those of you who were raising cotton before the war will remember that this provision was in the original Act. But when the cotton section of the Act was revised by Public Law 272 last fall, the release and reapportionment provision was not included. The new amendment restores it to the Act.

Although the purpose of the present cotton allotment-marketing quota program is to reduce total cotton production from the recent high level to an amount more in line with requirements, past experience has shown that there are always a number of growers who do not plant cotton on all of their allotted acreage. And this year, application of the formula in Public Law 272 has resulted in the establishment of some allotments that were actually larger than the farm operators wanted.

It is only logical, therefore, that these producers be allowed to release the allotted acreage they won't be planting this year so that it can be redistributed to other farms where it will be planted.

To make sure that those producers who release allotted acreage will not be penalized, the Congress also specified that the allotment could be released for one year only. For that reason, the release will have no effect on the size of any cotton allotments that may be established for the farm in future years, except to the extent that the acreage actually planted to cotton on the farm in 1950 affects the farm's highest planted acreage for the three-year base period. For 1951, under present legislation, this base period will be the years — 1947, 1948 and 1950.

A producer may also release all or a part of his allotment permanently. But that's up to him. He doesn't have to.

To make the release official, the producer must either write a letter to the county PMA committee, or sign a form provided for the purpose. These forms are available now in the county PMA office in (location). And in order that we may make full use of the released acreage, it is necessary to request that all releases be completed by (deadline date).

In reapportioning the released acreage, the county committee is required first to apply it against the quantity necessary to take care of the new minimum allotments provided by the amendment. The acreage released and used to offset these increases will be credited to the State and county in determining future allotments. If any released acreage is left over after adjustments for the minimum farm allotments have been made, it can be apportioned by the county committee to other farms in the county.

And that's about the story. Briefly, here is the step-by-step procedure.:

SPEAKER: (continued) First, growers who will not use all of their allotted acreage come into the county PMA office in (location) not later than (deadline date) and sign a form authorizing the release of all or as much of their 1950 cotton allotment as they wish.

Second, the county PMA committee applies this extra acreage toward adjustments necessary to provide for the minimum allotments guaranteed by the new amendment.

Third, if any is left over, it is used to adjust allotments for other farms in the county.

Don't forget the date — (deadline date) — because your good intentions will come to naught if you don't authorize the release by that time.

Now . . . a reminder about the other provisions of the new amendment.

Producers who wish to apply for an increase in their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment to the minimum established by the new law must file a written application in the county PMA office no later than (day), (deadline date). Forms for the purpose are available in the office. (Add comment if they are also available elsewhere.)

Cotton producers who believe their 1950 farm cotton acreage allotment has not been properly set according to the law and applicable regulations, may now file an appeal for review and reconsideration. But the request — in writing — must be in the hands of the county PMA committee no later than Saturday, April 15.

In addition, growers who apply for the new minimum allotment for their farms will have a 15-day period after the date on which the notice of revised allotment was mailed to them in which to file an appeal, even though this is after April 15.

Remember . . . if you have any additional questions, check with your community PMA committeeman, or come into the county PMA office in (location). We're going to be plenty busy for the next five or six weeks, but we'll certainly do everything we can to take care of you.

ANNOUNCER: Many thanks to you, Mr. _____ for this informative discussion of an extremely important topic. We're likely to be calling on you again from time to time to keep us up to date on things agricultural in _____ County. Our speaker has been Mr. _____, chairman of the _____ County Production and Marketing Administration committee.

